

Tis not otherwise:

OR:

The praise of a married life.

To the tune of, *I'll never love thee more.*

A Young man lately did complaine
because that he was wed:
And counsel'd others to abstaine
from Hymeneal bed:
Had yeers but given him man-like
he'd not bin so bawse, (thoughts,
For wines increase mans happines,
then 'tis not otherwise.

What for is there upon the earth
but Marriage makes it more;
It is to man a second birth,
and openeth the doore
To happines, and such delight
that none but they compaze:
They pleasures haue both day and night,
then 'tis not otherwise.

When I was single I did stray
in heart, in words, and life,
But I haue found a better way
I thanke my louing wife:
I now lue free from all suspect,
and many wicked eyes,
The good I wilht, hath take effect,
then 'tis not otherwise.

Such company I beo to keepe,
before I had a wife,
The memory both make me wepe,
for 'twas a wicked life:
Such comfort now at home I finde,
from Marriage to arise,
I wish all men therein my guide,
then 'tis not otherwise.

Unchisty games I now haue left
as Tables, Cards and Dice,
That oft hath me of wealth bereft,
I curse no more, nor Dice:
I do not now the Cards bid burne,
that made my anger rise,
A wife hath caused me to turne
then 'tis not otherwise.

So stull I am growne of late
since that I made my choice,
I hate each swearing swaggering mate,
which makes me to reioyce:
The company I now do keepe,
are honest men and wise,
That not with drinke, but sence do keepe,
then 'tis not otherwise.

No Constable nor watch care I,
if at anye Who goes there?
I doe not reele, but soberly
can passe them void of care:
I ble no candles in the moone,
I drinke not out mine eyes,
My wife hath made me these to looke,
then 'tis not otherwise.

This diet makes me to forget
the head-ach that some haue,
which makes them for all things drist,
(to drinke I am no slave.)
Those men their vertue hath out-worne,
that drinke both so disguise,
My wife hath made me this to looke,
then 'tis not otherwise.



The second part.

To the same tune.



Against I from my labour come,
my wife provides me meat:
When I was single none at home,
I wot not what to eat.
At sight of me she layes the cloath,
and then for meat she bies,
which makes me to forget all doath,
then 'tis not otherwise.

If I seeme discontent with ought,
she kindly prays me tell,
If that it is by beg'd or bought,
(or where it is to sell)
That would me please, & merry make:
the teares stand in her eyes
Will I my discontent forsake:
then 'tis not otherwise.

It is a comfort for to see,
good women mecke and mild,
That to her come in charity,
when that she is with child:
They comfort her if she do sorrow,
one for strong water bies,
And so their husbands healths drinke
then 'tis not otherwise. (round,

When th'at she both in child-bed lye,
the neighbours in their loue,
Will with her sit, and pleasantly
to mirth they doe her moue:
By christning of my little lad
I did in credit rise:
All this by my good wife I had,
then 'tis not otherwise.

For gossiping they send in meat,
would well serue forty men,
As good as any man can eat,
for mutton, pig, or hen;
They rate not halfe but leaue it me,
there profit both arise:
This cometh by a wife you see,
then 'tis not otherwise.

One ginea, a peece, and one a spoone
vnto my pretty childe,
And wish that ere to morrow noone,
their crables to be fill'd
With such a pretty child as this:
for there to me both rise,
Had I no wife all this I misse,
then 'tis not otherwise.

The babe doth grow, and quickly speaks,
this doth increase my ioy,
To heare it tattle, laugh, and squeaks,
I smile and hug the boy:
I with it play with great delight,
and hush it when it cries,
And euer wish it in my sight,
then 'tis not otherwise.

All Batchelors I wish you wed,
if merry you would lye,
A single man is oft misde,
and seldome both he thine:
I liu'd before, but better now,
my ioy and wealth arise,
To lye well I haue shewne you how,
then 'tis not otherwise.)

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